

U.S. District Court
District of Columbia (Washington, DC)
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:18-cv-00248-CKK

CAMPAIGN FOR ACCOUNTABILITY v. U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Assigned to: Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly
Demand: \$0
Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 02/02/2018
Jury Demand: None
Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of
Information Act
Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

Plaintiff

**CAMPAIGN FOR
ACCOUNTABILITY**

represented by **Cerissa Cafasso**
AMERICAN OVERSIGHT
1030 15th Street, NW
Suite B255
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 869-5244
Fax: (202) 871-6523
Email: cerissa.cafasso@americanoversight.org
ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

V.

Defendant

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES**

represented by **Daniel Patrick Schaefer**
U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
555 Fourth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20530
(202) 252-2531
Fax: (202) 252-2599
Email: Daniel.Schaefer@usdoj.gov
LEAD ATTORNEY
ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
02/02/2018	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT against U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (Filing fee \$ 400 receipt number 0090-5316244) filed by CAMPAIGN FOR ACCOUNTABILITY. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit A, # <u>2</u> Civil Cover Sheet, # <u>3</u> Summons, # <u>4</u> Summons, # <u>5</u> Summons)(Cafasso, Cerissa) (Entered: 02/02/2018)
02/02/2018	<u>2</u>	LCvR 7.1 CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interests by CAMPAIGN FOR ACCOUNTABILITY (Cafasso, Cerissa) (Entered: 02/02/2018)
02/02/2018		Case Assigned to Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly. (zmd) (Entered: 02/05/2018)
02/07/2018	<u>3</u>	SUMMONS (3) Issued Electronically as to U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachment: # <u>1</u> Notice and Consent)(zsb) (Entered: 02/07/2018)
02/07/2018	<u>4</u>	ORDER ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR CASES ASSIGNED TO JUDGE COLLEEN KOLLAR-KOTELLY. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on 2/7/2018. (DM) (Entered: 02/07/2018)
02/23/2018	<u>5</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed as to the United States Attorney. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney on 2/12/2018. (Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 3/14/2018.), RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES served on 2/12/2018, RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States

		Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 2/12/2018. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit A)(Cafasso, Cerissa) (Entered: 02/23/2018)
03/14/2018	<u>6</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Daniel Patrick Schaefer on behalf of U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (Schaefer, Daniel) (Entered: 03/14/2018)
03/14/2018	<u>7</u>	ANSWER to <u>1</u> Complaint by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.(Schaefer, Daniel) Modified to add link on 3/15/2018 (znmw). (Entered: 03/14/2018)
03/20/2018	<u>8</u>	ORDER. The parties shall file the schedule not later than APRIL 19, 2018 . Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on March 20, 2018. (lcckk1) (Entered: 03/20/2018)
03/20/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 4/19/2018. (dot) (Entered: 03/22/2018)
04/19/2018	<u>9</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES. (Schaefer, Daniel) (Entered: 04/19/2018)
05/02/2018		MINUTE ORDER: The Court has received the parties' <u>9</u> Joint Status Report, which indicates that Defendant has identified some potentially responsive records and that the parties intend to confer further regarding search terms and parameters for Defendant's remaining searches. The Court adopts the parties' proposed schedule, with minor modifications. The parties shall meet and confer by no later than MAY 9, 2018 , regarding the scope of Defendant's searches. The parties shall file a further Joint Status Report by no later than JUNE 4, 2018 , indicating the status of Defendant's searches and any productions, and proposing a schedule for further proceedings in this matter. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on May 2, 2018. (lcckk1) (Entered: 05/02/2018)
05/02/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Attorney Meet and Confer Conference by 5/9/2018, regarding the scope of Defendant's searches. Joint Status Report due by 6/4/2018. (dot) (Entered: 05/02/2018)
06/04/2018	<u>10</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Schaefer, Daniel) (Entered: 06/04/2018)
06/08/2018		MINUTE ORDER: The Court has received the parties' <u>10</u> Joint Status Report, which indicates that the parties continue to discuss search parameters and a production schedule, as well as the extent of overlap between the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") request at issue in this case and a FOIA request at issue in other litigation. The parties shall file a further Joint Status Report by no later than JUNE 28, 2018 , identifying the results of their negotiation of search parameters and a production schedule, and proposing a schedule for further proceedings in this matter. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on June 8, 2018. (lcckk1) (Entered: 06/08/2018)
06/08/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report, identifying the results of their negotiation of search parameters and a production schedule, and proposing a schedule for further proceedings in this matter due by 6/28/2018. (dot) (Entered: 06/08/2018)
06/28/2018	<u>11</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by CAMPAIGN FOR ACCOUNTABILITY. (Cafasso, Cerissa) (Entered: 06/28/2018)
07/16/2018		MINUTE ORDER: The Court has received the parties' <u>11</u> Joint Status Report, which indicates that the parties have made progress in their continuing discussion of search parameters. Defendant commits to complete its production of records responsive to one subpart of Plaintiff's FOIA request by July 30, 2018, and to process 500 pages per month that may be responsive to the other four subparts. Defendant estimates that it will be able to make an initial production as to those four subparts by early September 2018. The parties shall continue to confer and shall file a further Joint Status Report by no later than AUGUST 9, 2018 , updating the Court regarding the search parameters, completed production, anticipated further production, and their proposed schedule for further proceedings in this matter. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on July 16, 2018. (lcckk1) (Entered: 07/16/2018)
07/16/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 8/9/2018. (dot) (Entered: 07/17/2018)

08/09/2018	<u>12</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Schaefer, Daniel) (Entered: 08/09/2018)
08/30/2018		MINUTE ORDER: The Court has received the parties' <u>12</u> Joint Status Report, which indicates that Defendant completed its response to one subpart of Plaintiff's FOIA request and that the parties have agreed on search parameters and custodian processing priorities for the remaining four subparts. Defendant also set forth its anticipated schedule for searches and releases of documents pertaining to these four subparts. The Court adopts the parties' proposal that they file a further Joint Status Report by SEPTEMBER 17, 2018 , regarding the parties' progress. The parties shall continue to submit further Joint Status Reports every thirty days thereafter. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on August 30, 2018. (lcckk1) (Entered: 08/30/2018)
09/05/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 9/17/2018, regarding the parties' progress. (dot) (Entered: 09/05/2018)
09/17/2018	<u>13</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by CAMPAIGN FOR ACCOUNTABILITY. (Cafasso, Cerissa) (Entered: 09/17/2018)
10/17/2018	<u>14</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by CAMPAIGN FOR ACCOUNTABILITY. (Cafasso, Cerissa) (Entered: 10/17/2018)
11/16/2018	<u>15</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by CAMPAIGN FOR ACCOUNTABILITY. (Cafasso, Cerissa) (Entered: 11/16/2018)
12/17/2018	<u>16</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES. (Schaefer, Daniel) (Entered: 12/17/2018)
01/15/2019	<u>17</u>	Unopposed MOTION to Stay , Unopposed MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>All Deadlines</i> by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Pfaffenroth, Peter) (Entered: 01/15/2019)
01/16/2019		MINUTE ORDER: The Court has received Defendant's <u>17</u> Unopposed Motion to Stay Proceedings and for Extension of Time in Light of Lapse in Appropriations. The Court reminds Defendant that motions for extensions of time are due no later than four business days prior to the first affected deadline, which in this case is the Joint Status Report due by January 16, 2019. Order Establishing Procedures for Cases Assigned to Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly, ECF No. <u>4</u> , ¶ 7. Although Plaintiff opposes a general stay, Plaintiff would not oppose an extension that is "reasonably short."In an exercise of the Court's discretion, the Court shall GRANT Defendant's <u>17</u> Unopposed Motion. Except as provided below, the Court shall STAY this case, including the deadline for the next Joint Status Report. The parties shall file a notice within five business days of the restoration of the U.S. Department of Justice's funding and the resumption of its operations. Defendant has not indicated whether the agency personnel responsible for processing Plaintiff's FOIA request have been deemed essential. To the extent that those agency personnel have been deemed essential, they should continue to process Plaintiff's FOIA request during the pendency of the lapse in appropriations so that, upon restoration of funding, the Joint Status Report may be submitted more promptly.Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on January 16, 2019. (lcckk1) (Entered: 01/16/2019)
01/30/2019	<u>18</u>	NOTICE of Restored Government Funding and Proposed Schedule by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (Schaefer, Daniel) (Entered: 01/30/2019)
01/30/2019		MINUTE ORDER: The Court has received the parties' <u>18</u> Notice of Restored Government Funding and Proposed Schedule. Accordingly, the Court hereby LIFTS the stay in this matter."Defendant... confirms that the Agency continued to process the Freedom of Information Act ('FOIA') request and that no processing time in this matter was lost as a result of the lapse of appropriations." The Court shall adopt a slightly adjusted version of the parties' proposed deadline for their next Joint Status Report. The parties shall submit a Joint Status Report regarding their progress by FEBRUARY 15, 2019, and every 30 days thereafter, unless and until the Court orders otherwise. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on January 30, 2019. (lcckk1) (Entered: 01/30/2019)

02/15/2019	<u>19</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by CAMPAIGN FOR ACCOUNTABILITY. (Cafasso, Cerissa) (Entered: 02/15/2019)
03/18/2019	<u>20</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by CAMPAIGN FOR ACCOUNTABILITY. (Cafasso, Cerissa) (Entered: 03/18/2019)